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Subject: Re: DHSRates R Standard Errors

Posted by [Janet-DHS](#) on Mon, 08 Jan 2024 15:29:20 GMT

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Following is a response from DHS staff member, Tom Pullum:

I am sorry, but DHS staff cannot help with this issue, at least not quickly. This program was written by Mahmoud Elkasabi, who left DHS more than two years ago. The other fertility rates programs that we have posted on GitHub do not include the calculation of standard errors. I expect that they will eventually be updated to include standard errors, but not soon.

Your 3-step approach (which would be followed by taking the square root of the sum) has two problems with it. The first is that it ignores the covariances among the asfrs, and they can be non-negligible. The second issue is that the procedure should be on the scale of the logs of the rates.

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